

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 00101 091815Z

71

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: PERMREP LUNCH DISCUSSION JANUARY 8

SUMMARY: IN ADDITION TO A MATTER REPORTED SEPTEL, PERMREPS AT LUNCH JANUARY 8 DISCUSSED THE NATO 25TH ANNIVERSARY, ATLANTIC DECLARATION, IMPROVING NATO CONSULTATIONS, COUNCIL MEETINGS WITH ATTENDANCE OF POLITICAL DIRECTORS AND CONSULTATIONS ON MATTERS OUTSIDE THE TREATY AREA. END SUMMARY

1. 25TH ANNIVERSARY: SYG LUNS THOUGHT IT SHOULD BE TAKEN AS MORE OR LESS CERTAIN THAT THE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION WOULD BE HELD IN BRUSSELS

(IF THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT CONCURRED) AND COINCIDE WITH THE SPRING COUNCIL MINISTERIAL AND SIGNING OF ATLANTIC DECLARATIONS. LUNS THOUGHT FROM U.S. NEWS REPORTS THAT THESE EVENTS WOULD TAKE PLACE AFTER EASTER, APRIL 14: IN LATE APRIL OR POSSIBLY EARLY MAY. BELGIAN PERMREP DE STAERCKE AGREED FOR GOB AS TO VENUE.

2. LUNS THEN REFERRED TO U.S. SPECIFICATION THAT SIGNING OF DECLARATIONS BE AT AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL, AND DE STAERCKE WONDERED IF PRESIDENT POMPIDOU'S DECISION WHETHER OR NOT TO COME TO BRUSSELS COULD AFFECT LOCATION OF SIGNINGS. FRENCH PERMREP DE ROSE'S IMPRESSION WAS THAT FRANCE WANTED SIGNATURE TO BE IN BRUSSELS
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 00101 091815Z

AND THAT IT CONSIDERED LEVEL OF SIGNATORIES AS A SEPARATE QUESTION.

3. CONSENSUS WAS THAT AMBASSADORS SHOULD INDICATE IN COUNCIL WHO WOULD ATTEND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AND SIGN DECLARATIONS.

U.S. COULD THEN DECIDE WHETHER PROPOSED LEVEL OF SIGNATURE WAS APPROPRIATE AND ANY ISSUE BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE U.S. COULD BE HANDLED BILATERALLY.

4. NATO ATLANTIC DECLARATION: DE STAERCKE SAID NATO SHOULD MOVE QUICKLY TO VIRTUAL AGREEMENT ON TEXT, BOTH TO HEAD OFF CENTRIFUGAL FORCES SUCH AS NEW INPUTS AND ATTEMPTED RE-WRITES IN CAPITALS, AND TO SERVE AS AN EXAMPLE FOR THE NINE. HE SUGGESTED THAT DE ROSE AND RUMSFELD MEET TOGETHER WITH ASSISTANT SYG KASTL TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES. DE ROSE SAID HE WANTED TO COMMENT ON NEW PROPOSED FRENCH AMENDMENTS IN COUNCIL, PRESUMABLY JANUARY 9.

5. IMPROVING NATO CONSULTATIONS: LUNS SAID THE OTHER ALLIES SHOULD CONSULT JUST AS THE U.S. IS CONSTANTLY CALLED UPON TO CONSULT. IT WAS WRONG FOR THE NINE NOT TO HAVE TOLD SECRETARY KISSINGER WHEN THEY MET WITH HIM IN BRUSSELS THAT THEY WERE GOING TO INVITE ARAB MINISTERS TO COPENHAGEN. ALSO, WHY HAD FRANCE NOT CONSULTED WITH THE U.S. ABOUT THE ARMS-OIL DEAL WITH SAUDI ARABIA, IN VIEW THE LONGSTANDING U.S. RELATIONSHIP WITH SAUDI ARABIA AND ROLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS?

6. COUNCIL MEETING WITH POLITICAL DIRECTORS: DE STAERCKE SUGGESTED THAT ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS BELGIUM HOST AN INFORMAL LUNCHEON AWAY FROM NATO HEADQUARTERS PRESIDED OVER BY LUNS AND ATTENDED BY NATO AMBASSADORS, POLITICAL DIRECTORS OF THE FIFTEEN, DEPUTY SYG PANSA AND KASTL. IF THIS WAS AGREEABLE, DE STAERCKE WOULD SET A TUESDAY DATE IN LATE JANUARY OR EARLY FEBRUARY. BEFORE THE LUNCH, PERMREPS COULD SUGGEST AND AGREE UPON A LIST OF QUESTIONS TO BE DISCUSSED.

7. ITALIAN PERMREP CATALANO AGREED AND SUGGESTED DISCUSSING CSCE AND MBFR. CANADIAN AMBASSADOR MENZIES ALSO AGREED BUT CAUTIONED AGAINST DEVELOPING FIRM PROCEDURES AT TOO EARLY A STATE, AND AGAINST TOO MANY MEETINGS IN A GIVEN YEAR. I INDICATED THAT THE PROPOSALS SOUNDED AGREEABLE TO ME. WHILE
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NATO 00101 091815Z

UK PERMREP PECK ALSO AGREED, HE WAS BASICALLY NEGATIVE TO THE IDEA OF MEETINGS WITH POLITICAL DIRECTORS AND MADE THE POINT THAT THE PURPOSE SHOULD BE TO EXPOSE POLITICAL DIRECTORS TO NATO. HE INDICATED KILLICK AND NOT WRIGHT WOULD ATTEND FOR THE UK.

8. DE STAERCKE SAID THAT AFTER THE FIRST LUNCHEON MEETING, PERMREPS COULD DECIDE ON ANY FUTURE SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS. THE NEW NETHERLANDS AMBASSADOR HARTOGH SAID THE IDEA OF MEETINGS WITH POLITICAL DIRECTORS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED EXPERIMENTAL.

9. CONSULTATIONS ON MATTERS OUTSIDE THE TREATY AREA: PECK SAID WE SHOULD LOOK AT MATTERS OUTSIDE THE TREATY AREA THAT COULD

AFFECT NATO. HE MENTIONED POST-TITO YUGOSLAVIA AND TERRORISM. I AGREED TO THE GENERAL IDEA AS DID SYG LUNS AND FRG AMBASSADOR DRAPF, WHO SUGGESTED POST-MAO CHINA AS ANOTHER LIKELY SUBJECT.

10. IN RESPONSE TO CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY DE ROSE AND OTHERS ABOUT LEAKS, PANSA SUGGESTED ORAL RATHER THAN WRITTEN REPORTS. DE ROSE WAS STILL WARY. I SAID IT SEEMED TO ME THAT ONE WAY TO AVOID DETAILED DISCUSSION OF A CONTINGENCY PLANNING NATURE THAT MIGHT RESULT IN EMBARRASSING PRESS LEAKS WOULD BE TO TAKE A PROCEDURAL APPROACH AND DISCUSS HOW NATO WOULD HANDLE CATEGORIES OF POSSIBLE EVENTS OUTSIDE THE TREATY AREA THAT MIGHT IMPINGE UPON NATO. ALL AGREED WE SHOULD NOT IN ANY CASE BECOME ENMESHED IN EXCESSIVE CONTINGENCY PLANNING WHICH COULD ABSORB ALL OUR TIME. PECK SUGGESTED WE MIGHT DEVELOP A CHECKLIST OF THINGS TO BE CONSIDERED IN CASE OF VARIOUS CONTINGENCIES.
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